

better go home.      He did not, and when he  
 saw the tail of  
 the procession he died of fright.<sup>1</sup>

Soul-cakes   In our own country the old belief in the  
 annual return

*Sotik<sup>1</sup> Da- ° ^ ^ ie dead ion f lin g eraci in tne custom of baking " soul-*  
 in England, cakes " and eating them or distributing them  
 to the poor on

All Souls' Day.      Peasant girls used to go  
 from farmhouse  
 to farmhouse on that day, singing,

*Soul soul) for a soul cake,  
 Pray you, good mistress, a soul M/ce. " 2  
 Pray you,*

In Shropshire down to the seventeenth century it was customary on All Souls' Day to set on the table a high heap of soul-cakes, and most visitors to the house took one of them. The antiquary John Aubrey, who records the custom, mentions also the appropriate verses :

*" A soul-cake ^ a soul-cake,  
 Have mercy on all Christen soiles for a soitlc-  
 cake" 3*

Indeed the custom of soul-cakes survived in Shropshire down to the latter part of the nineteenth century and may " Souiing not be extinct even now. " With us, All Saints' Day is Shropshire known as \* Souiing Day,<sup>3</sup> and up to the present time in many places, poor children, and sometimes men, go out \* souling ' : which means that they go round to the houses of all the more well-to-do people within reach, reciting a ditty peculiar to the day, and looking for a dole of cakes, broken victuals, ale, apples, or money. The two latter are now the usual rewards, but there are few old North Salopians who cannot remember when 'soul-cakes' were made at all the farms and ' bettermost ' houses in readiness for the day, and were given to all who came for them. We are told of

<sup>1</sup> G. Finamore, *Credence, Usi e Cos-*  
when she was a child  
*tunii Abntzesi* (Palermo, 1890), pp.  
seeing the souls come  
180-182. Mr. W. R. Paton writes to  
Almost the same rite is  
me (r 2th December 1906): " You do  
*/c6Au/3a* made on the  
not mention the practice[s] on the  
commemoration of particular  
dead."  
modern Greek feast TOW *dvxwv* (in *o t i r*  
May) which quite correspond. The " M" *tr and*,  
*/V.i/ar ^w/w/*,  
*κ&|ufia* is made in every house and *o/G tm i htca u* (Lonil<">>  
*i5>b2-iSS3*),  
put on a table laid with a white table-  
cloth. A glass of water and a taper  
*^etnaltic.s of (lentil-*  
are put on the table, and all is left so  
(London, *iSSi*),  
for the whole night. Our Greek maid-  
servant says that,  
she remembers  
and partake.  
practised for the  
p. 23.